(c) whether Government propose to ask the South Asian Coaptation on Child Servitude to launch similar campaigns in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh where abuse of child labour is maximum; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) According to information received from the State Government of Bihar a representative of an organisation (Bachpan Bachao Andolan) has informed that "Mukti Caravan" is being launched from 14th November, 1998 in Bihar. The objectives as per information given by the organisation include, inter-alia, (i) generating awareness among the people for elimination of child labour in hazardous occupations.

(ii) to appeal vide the campaign that employers of child labour should give employment to an adult member of the family of the child labourer so released;

(iii) getting child labourers released by taking direct action at different places and initiating prosecution against offending employers;

(iv) arranging transit rehabilitation for working children during the campaign etc.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Awareness generation programme has already been launched by the Government and funds have been sanctioned in the child labour endemic states for this purpose. National Child Labour Projects have been started in 76 districts of the country.

Non-payment of wages to workers of patriot and link newsmagazine

1620. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that workers of United India periodicals (P) Ltd., proprietors of Patriot Newspaper and Link Newsmagazine, have not been getting wages/salaries, although a lock-out imposed in June, 1996 has been lifted on April 30, 1997;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to ensure that the workers get their wages/salaries regularly; and

(c) if no action has been taken, what action Government propose to take?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) As per information received from National Capital Territory of Delhi, inspite of efforts by Labour Commissioner's office, the payment of wages to the employees was not made and the management of M/s. United Periodicals Pvt. Ltd., has been prosecuted on several occasions under Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The employees were also advised to file their dispute of non-payment of wages before the competent Authority.

Statutory linkage of minimum wages with price index

1621. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in several States/industries minimum wages are not linked with consumer price index numbers;

(b) if so, the details of such States and' industries where such linkage has been established;

(c) whether Government are considering the proposal to statutory linkage of minimum wages With price index;

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be enacted; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) 18 States/Union Territories have linked minimum wages fixed under the Minimum wages Act with the Consumer Price Index Number. The increased payment made on account of increase in the Consumer Price Index is known as Variable Dearncss Allowance. A statement showing state-wise position of the states who pay variable Dearncss Allowance alongwith minimum wages and who do not pay, is at Annexure. *[See* Appendix 185, Annexure No. 43]

(c) to (c) There is no proposal to have statutory linkage of minimum wages with the price index because most of the Statcs/Untion Territories have established this linkage on voluntary basis.

Unemployed Persons in the Country

1622. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) The Total number ot unemployeu people in the country, such as engineers, doctors post graduates, matriculates, etc. category-wise as on 30th June, 1998;

(b) How many people got employment during the period form 1st April, 1997 to 30th June, 1998, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Category-wise number of educated job seekers (matric & above), all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed on the Live Register of various Employment Exchanges in the country as on 30th June, 1995, (Lates a available) and the placement made during 01.01.1994 to 30.06.1995 are given in the statement dven below.

Statement

Number of Educated persons on Live Register and placed in Employment through Employment Exchanges

(in thousand)

Decription	Number on Live Register as on 30.06.1995	No. placed in Employment during 1.1.94 to 30.6.95
1. Matrie	14070.8	74.7
2. 12th Class Passed	5897.2	27.0
3. Graduates	3713.6	43.7
4. Post Graduates	482.8	5.7
*5. Dimploma Holders in Engineering Technology	404.5	5.5
*6. Engineers (Graduates & Post Graduates)	160.9	2.2
*7. Medicine (Graduates & Post Graduates)	31.5	1.3
GRAND TOTAL (1 to 4)	24164.4	149.4

* Included in item 1 to 4